

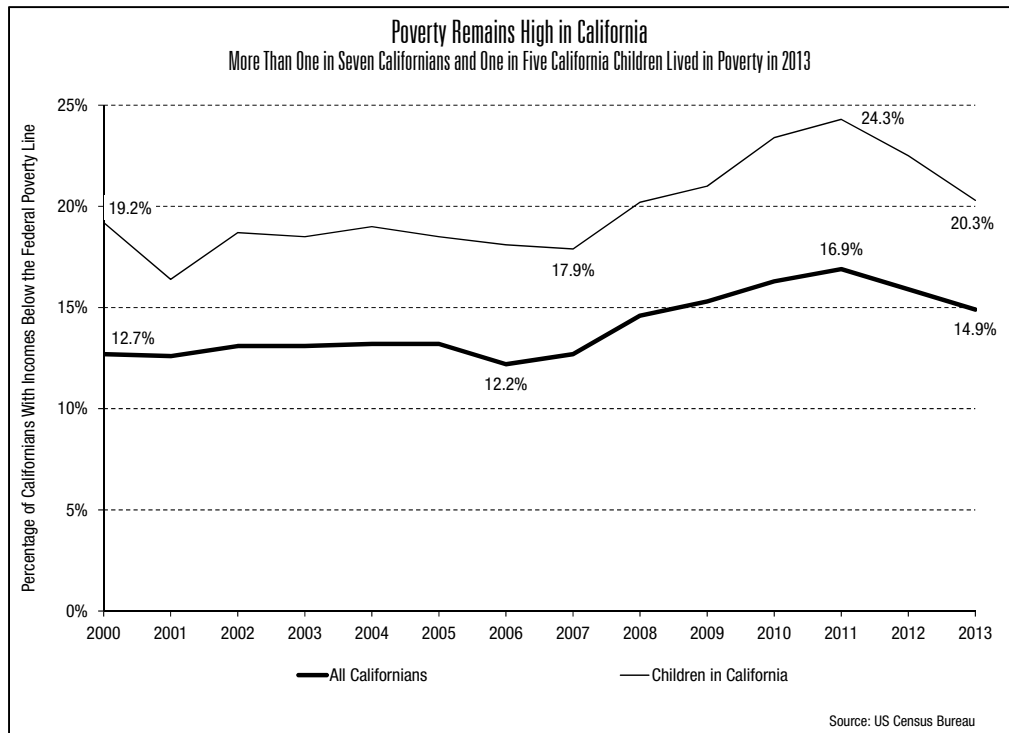
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# New Census Data Show That More Than One in Seven Californians — One-Third of Them Children — Lived in Poverty in 2013

## State's Overall Poverty Rate and Child Poverty Rate Remain High Despite Declines Since 2011, Highlighting Need for Policies That Boost Workers' Earnings

Census Bureau data released today show that the share of Californians with incomes below the federal poverty line in 2013 remained significantly higher than in 2006, the year before the Great Recession began. More than 5.6 million Californians – over one in seven – had incomes below the poverty line in 2013. California's overall poverty rate of 14.9 percent in 2013 is down significantly from 16.9 percent in 2011, but is still much higher than the pre-recession level of 12.2 percent in 2006.

Nearly 2 million California children were living in poverty in 2013, accounting for one in five children in the state (20.3 percent). Although this child poverty rate is down significantly from that in 2011 (24.3 percent), children still account for an outsize share of Californians living in poverty. Californians under age 18 were less than one-quarter of the total state population (23.9 percent) in 2013, but they accounted for nearly one-third of those living in poverty (32.5 percent).



The new Census data show that:

- In 2013, 5.68 million Californians had incomes below the poverty line. The poverty line varies by family size. The 2013 poverty line was \$23,624 for a family of four with two children.
- California's poverty rate for 2013 – 14.9 percent – is more than one-fifth higher than the 12.2 percent poverty rate in 2006, the year before the recession began. This is a statistically significant difference.
- In 2013, 1.84 million California children lived in families with incomes below the poverty line, for a child poverty rate of 20.3 percent. This is 2.4 percentage points above the most recent low of 17.9 percent in 2007.
- The US poverty rate was 14.5 percent in 2013. This is down from 15.0 percent in 2012, but remains 2.2 percentage points above the most recent low of 12.3 percent in 2006. These are both statistically significant differences.

The new Census data also show that the inflation-adjusted income for the typical California household has been stagnant. The state's median household income in 2013 was \$57,528, essentially unchanged from 2012 and 10 percent below the \$63,913 median in 2006, after adjusting for inflation.